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India

Post: New Delhi

Nutraceuticals and Food Health Supplement Standards Made Operational

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety Exporter Guide Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

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Report Highlights:

On November 24, 2016, the Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), issued new standards for nutritional supplements, nutraceuticals, foods for special dietary requirements, and foods for special medical requirements. Although FSSAI has made the new standards operational, full implementation will not be enforced as of January 1, 2018, thereby giving stakeholders' time to adjust and come into compliance.

General Information:

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website http://www.fssai.gov.in/. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

FSSAI published new standards for nutritional supplements, nutraceuticals, foods for special dietary requirements, and foods for special medical requirements. Post expects a final Gazette notification will be published soon, pending translation into the Hindi language. FSSAI will also grant a period of about one year to businesses to comply with the provisions of the Regulation, with full enforcement expected on or around January 1, 2018. Industry sources report that the private sector will have sufficient time to adjust and come into full compliance by then.

Background:

On August 5, 2015, India notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO) a draft regulation for nutraceuticals, as well as foods for special diets and medical purposes. The draft regulation defined these categories on ingredients, labeling, additives, contaminants, toxins, and health and nutritional claims. The draft regulation also determined the criteria for manufacture and sale of these categories of foods. The draft regulations also included required lists of the active ingredients (nutrients), and recommended doses or consumption levels. For more details, please refer to GAIN IN5110.

On March 30, 2016, FSSAI issued an order stating that until nutraceuticals, and nutritional supplement standards are finalized, businesses which handle these products could follow the status quo, as per the requirements provided in the FSSAI Draft Notification (GAIN IN5097 and GAIN IN5110).

The full text of the FSSAI Standards are available on FSSAI's website: www.fssai.gov.in/.